

The Claims

1. A fingerprint identification system comprising:
- 5 a) a portable fingerprint scanner which can be hand carried to various locations for obtaining fingerprint images and for storing the images obtained in the scanner; and
- 10 b) at least one docking station at a location spaced from the location where fingerprint images are obtained, the docking station being in the form of a receptacle for receiving the scanner, the fingerprint images being downloaded from the scanner when the scanner is received in the docking system.
- 15 2. A system according to claim 1, further including a computer operatively connected to the docking station for processing fingerprint images downloaded from the scanner.
- 20 3. A system according to claim 2, wherein diagnostic routines are provided by the computer for operation on the scanner while in the docking station.
- 25 4. A system according to claim 1, wherein the scanner is battery operated and wherein the docking station is provided with a voltage source for recharging the scanner battery when in the docking station.
- 30 5. A system according to claim 1, wherein the scanner is an ultrasonic fingerprint scanner.
6. A system according to claim 1, wherein the scanner has barcode scanning capability.

7. A system according to claim 1, wherein the docking station is located in a law enforcement vehicle and wherein the scanner is adapted to be carried by a law enforcement officer.

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8. A system according to claim 7, wherein the scanner is provided with an external magnetic component for attachment to a vehicle during use in obtaining images.

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9. A system according to claim 1, wherein the scanner has an infrared data link for wireless transmission of fingerprint images while received in the docking station.

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10. A fingerprint identification and security system comprising:

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a) a portable fingerprint scanner which can be carried on a person and which includes a time of day clock and a port for data communication to and from the scanner;

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b) a plurality of docking stations at locations where inspections are to be performed, each of the docking stations being in the form of a receptacle for receiving the scanner, each docking station having a microprocessor and a unique code identification, there being bidirectional data communication between the docking station and the scanner received therein; and

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c) a supervisory docking station in the form of a receptacle for receiving the scanner for downloading fingerprint images, times of day and docking station identifications from the scanner received therein; and

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